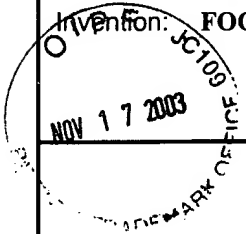

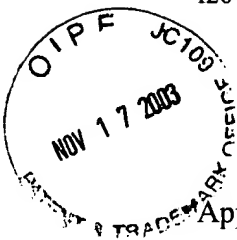


B

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)			Docket No. FIS920000409US1	
Applicant(s): Sievers et al.				
Serial No. 09/887,791	Filing Date 6/22/2001	Examiner Ahmed, Shamim	Group Art Unit 1765	
Invention: FOCUSED ION BEAM PROCESS FOR REMOVAL OF COPPER				
<div></div>				
<p>I hereby certify that this <u>Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pages)</u> (Identify type of correspondence)</p> <p>is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:</p> <p>Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p>on <u>November 13, 2003</u> (Date)</p> <p><u>Rebecca L. Blake</u> (Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)</p> <p><u></u> (Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)</p>				
<p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>				



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Sievers et al.)	
)	
Serial No.:	09/887,791)	Group Art Unit: 1765
)	
Filed:	June 22, 2001)	Examiner: Ahmed, Shamim
)	
For:	FOCUSED ION BEAM PROCESS)	
	FOR REMOVAL OF COPPER)	

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop: ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This response is submitted in response to the Notice of Allowability dated
November 4, 2003.

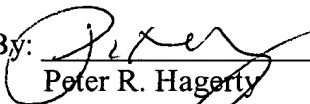
REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that all pending claims are allowed over the prior art including, but not limited to, U.S. Patent No. 6,322,672 to Shuman et al., which is considered by the Examiner to be the closest prior art. However, Applicants note that under 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e), reasons for allowance are intended only as a supplement to the "record as a whole" when that record is not clear and shall not be treated as a substitute for the record or in a manner inconsistent with the record. Therefore applicant accepts the examiner's reasons only to the extent that they are consistent with the record as a whole and does not accept any claim interpretation that is broader or narrower than that afforded by the record as a whole prior to the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. As to all claims for which the basis for allowance is otherwise clear from the record, no further limitation can be inferred from the examiner's statement under rule 104(e).

If there are any fees due in connection with the Response, or otherwise, Applicants' attorneys authorize that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

Respectfully submitted,

CANTOR COLBURN LLP

By: 
Peter R. Hagerly
Registration No. 42,618

Date: November 13, 2003
Customer No.: 29371
Address: 55 Griffin Road South
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone: (860) 286-2929